

New Cartographic Dictionary

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Abstract

The Cartographic Dictionary was published this year by the Croatian Cartographic Society and Dominović Publishing House. In this paper we will describe the problems we encountered in the preparation of this dictionary.

Cartography is a discipline which deals with devising, producing, promoting and studying maps. According to the official division of the sciences in Croatia, cartography is a branch of geodesy, and therefore is numbered among the technical sciences. However, it is generally acknowledged that maps are all around us, so cartography is to a great extent integral to geography, geology, seafaring, forestry, agronomy, history, architecture, pedagogy and many other areas which use maps and geoinformation.

In the last 40 years, cartography has undergone great changes. Increasing opportunities for interactivity on the web, the replacement of paper maps by multimedia and electronic ones, rising demands for three-dimensional models of the landscape for the purpose of various analyses, simulations and visualisations, global cartography services and other innovations are all covered in this *Cartographic Dictionary*. Each entry has been studiously processed, but is understandable and clear.

The *Cartographic Dictionary* is an expert dictionary containing expressions from cartography and related areas. The *Dictionary* has 2,500 entries arranged in alphabetical order. If the entry consists of two or more words, the first is always a noun. For example, *thematic map* is listed in the dictionary under *map, thematic*. The comma indicates that the normal word order has been reversed.

Each entry begins with a definition, which is usually concise, consisting of one sentence. Often, if more explanation is needed, the reader is directed (*See...*) to similar entries. The brief, concise definition is usually followed by a *note*, sometimes extensive, giving the reader more information if required.

All the definitions are in Croatian. However, cartography knows no borders, so most entries are accompanied by synonyms in English, French and German. At the end of the dictionary there is a glossary which will help readers find the right expressions in these languages with directions to the appropriate entry in Croatian.

More than 40 years have passed since the publication of the first and only *Multilingual Cartographic Dictionary* in Croatia. During the intervening period, many new things have happened in the world, and the authors of this new dictionary have tried to include those relevant to the field of cartography.

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